

**MINUTES
MACOMB COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 9, 2006**

President Perna began the meeting at 7:30 a.m. held at Freedom Hill County Park.

ROLL CALL

In Attendance:

James M. Perna, President
Dino F. Bucci Jr., Sgt. At Arms
Phillip A. DiMaria
Anthony Lipinski
Timothy M. Malone
Gene Schabath, Rep. Anthony Marrocco
Thomas L. Raymus
Marvin E. Sauger
Betty Slinde

Excused:

Gasper Salerno, Vice-President
Ann E. Klein, Secretary

Others Present:

Anthony G. Casasanta, Sharon Quinn and David Humbyrd, Parks & Recreation;
Jim Meyerand, Corporation Counsel; Tom Bommarito, Hank Riberas of PSE Hillside LLC, Cindy Rhodes Victor of Hillside; Mario Etemad of PSE; and Gerald Santoro of Planning & Economic Development

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. DIMARIA, SUPPORTED BY MR. SAUGER TO ADOPT THE AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Fran Parker of Sterling Heights made comments to the following: parking cost for fireworks should remain the same, collection of parking should be done by the County, concerns over 75-25 split, asked about the liquor license and hall revenue, cost sharing of security services, and questioned concert bookings.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MOTION BY MS. SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY MR. DIMARIA WAS MADE APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 8, 2006. MOTION CARRIED.

BUDGET REPORT

Mr. Casasanta reported there are no major changes to the budget.

A MOTION BY MR. BUCCI, SUPPORTED BY MR. SAUGER WAS MADE APPROVING THE BUDGET REPORT AS SUBMITTED BY THE PARKS ADMINISTRATOR. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Casasanta referenced a letter to Mr. Grzanka of Internal Audit from Mr. Casasanta regarding 2005 Gross Ticket Revenue and Sponsorship Recap and correspondence to Mr. Roncelli from Mr. Perna inquiring the revenue on lawn seats sold for 2005.

A MOTION BY MS. SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY MR. SAUGER WAS MADE TO RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Master Plan & Open Space Plan Update

Mr. Casasanta reported that an outside agency would be necessary to complete the Master Plan and Open Space Comprehensive Plan and anticipates a cost of about \$20,000. The Park has \$16,000 in capital improvement and can utilize other line items to cover this cost. Mr. Santoro of Planning made a presentation to the Parks Commission on achieving the Plans through focus groups consisting of public input and gave a description using a map of the Park as to parking flow, bike path and other amenities such as updates to the building.

Discussion and questions ensued relative to outside bids and concerns for other capital improvements.

A MOTION BY MS. SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY MR. LIPINSKI WAS MADE TO APPROVE AUTHORIZATION OF \$20,000 FROM THE PARK'S BUDGET TO HIRE AN OUTSIDE SOURCE TO ASSIST WITH THE MASTER PLAN & OPEN SPACE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. MOTION CARRIED.

2006 4TH of July Fireworks

Mr. Casasanta reported that the Park does not have \$20,000 for fireworks this year.

Mr. DiMaria recommended Mr. Casasanta seek sponsorships to continue with \$20,000 fireworks for 2006 and report back to the Commission next month.

2005 Parking Recap

The Parks Commission was in receipt of the parking recap table. Mr. Casasanta reported that total revenue for parking in 2005 was \$477,775 for all events. Mr. Perna commented the County received \$125,000 since total revenue was under \$500,000.

Mr. Schabath asked for history as to how much revenue the County made in years past. Mr. Casasanta responded the County has reached approximately \$170,000 during 2000; generally it has been around \$120,000.

A MOTION BY MR. DIMARIA, SUPPORTED BY MR. SAUGER WAS MADE TO RECEIVE AND FILE 2005 PARKING RECAP. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

2006 Parking Fees

Mr. Perna stated based on the contract, he recommends Hillside PSE should meet with the Parks Committee to discuss recommendations on changes to parking fees.

A MOTION BY MR. BUCCI, SUPPORTED BY MR. SAUGER WAS MADE TO HAVE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARKS COMMISSION MEET WITH PSE HILLSIDE ABOUT PARKING FEES AND COME BACK TO THE PARK COMMISSION WITH ANY RECOMMENDATIONS. MOTION CARRIED.

2006 Parking Collection

Mr. Casasanta stated the cost is approximately \$30,000 for Park Staff to collect parking for County Park sponsored events and would require more manpower with an approximate cost of \$91 per hour.

Mr. Casasanta stated the rates on parking is as follows: county receives \$5.00 on festivals, rebate of \$1.00 to sponsors; county receives \$7.00 on car shows, rebate of \$3.00 to sponsors; seasonal passes of \$25.00; and the County receives \$3.00 from the sale of concert tickets.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Perna stated the Committee on parking fees should happen quickly in order to prepare for the printing of tickets and also reminded the Parks Commission collection of parking must be addressed with this committee, as well as, parking fees.

Macedonian Festival & St. Raymond Apple Harvest Festival

Mr. Casasanta recommended approval of the Macedonian and St. Raymond Apple Harvest Festivals for this season.

Mr. DiMaria asked for a description on fees for festivals. Mr. Casasanta responded that 3-day weekend rental fee is \$6,400 for the park grounds, includes security (half paid by sponsor), and includes park staff that provides clean up and assistance.

Mr. Schabath inquired cost of security. Mr. Casasanta responded typically the cost is \$3,000 for a weekend.

Mr. Casasanta further explained that car shows are a little different in that the Park receives food sales and parking fees, however rent monies are net involved.

A MOTION BY MS. SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY MR. SAUGER WAS MADE APPROVING THE MACEDONIAN FESTIVAL AND ST. RAYMOND APPLE HARVEST FESTIVAL AS REQUESTED. MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER

Mr. Perna introduced Mario Etemad, Executive Vice President with Palace and Sports Entertainment. Mr. Etemad addressed the Commission by stating he looks forward to working with the Parks Commission.

Mr. Lipinski asked who would be on the Committee to discuss parking collection and fees. Mr. Perna responded if anyone is interested to get a hold of him.

Mr. DiMaria asked Mr. Casasanta if he could research and check with Corporation Counsel regarding the Park's directive or policy for contract bidding.

Mr. Schabath inquired as about the status on the Cabaret event. Mr. Perna responded he had spoken with Michael Carluccio recently, who tentatively is planning on April 29th to hold this event with no alcohol or food served. Mr. Carluccio is confident that he will have 200-250 people attend.

Mr. Lipinski thanked Mr. Casasanta for providing all information on parking and having it available today.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. BUCCI, SUPPORTED BY MR. DIMARIA TO ADJOURN THE COMMISSION MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

President Perna adjourned the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting at 8:10 a.m.

Sincerely,

Ann E. Klein, Secretary
Macomb County Parks & Recreation Commission

AEK/sq